

## Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 JUSE-00 L-03 SY-03 SCCT-02 FBIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NSC-07 H-03 DRC-01 /094 W

----- 034264

R 101900Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4483

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS KINGSTON 1301

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, JM

SUBJ: PARLIAMENT PASSES GUN LAWS

REF: KINGSTON 1225

1. IN A STORMY SESSION APR 9, DURING WHICH THE OPPOSITION WALKED OUT, PARLIAMENT PASSED A BILL DESIGNED TO PLACE FURTHER CONTROLS ON THE POSSESSION OF FIREARMS. THE BILL HAD BEEN INTRODUCED IN PARLIAMENT ON JAN 6 BUT, IN LIGHT OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, CONTAINED A NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS.

2. THE MAIN POINTS OF THE BILL WHICH AMENDS THE FIREARMS ACT OF 1967 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. THREE REQUIREMENTS MUST BE FULFILLED BEFORE THE ISSUANCE OF A FIREARM USER'S LICENCE, FIREARM USER'S (SPECIAL) PERMIT OR FIREARM USER'S (EMPLOYEE'S) CERTIFICATE. APPLICANTS MUST SHOW PROFICIENCY IN THE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE FIREARM; THEY MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY HAVE MADE ADEQUATE PROVISION FOR KEEPING THE FIREARM; THE FIREARM MUST BE INSPECTED.

B. ON 14 DAYS NOTICE, THE MINISTER MAY CALL FOR THE DELIVERY OF SPECIFIED FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION FOR SAFE-KEEPING. EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE BUT FAILURE TO OBEY COULD RESULT IN A FINE OF \$5,000

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OR FIVE YEARS.

C. LOSS OF A FIREARM COULD RESULT IN A FINE OF \$500 OR ONE YEAR  
IN PRISON.

3. IN PRESENTING HIS BILL MINISTER MATALON SAID THAT IF THE  
NATION IS IN ITS PRESENT STATE WHEN THE BIRD-SHOOTING SEASON  
ROLLS AROUND THERE WILL BE NO SEASON.

4. A BILL ON DANGEROUS DRUGS WAS INTRODUCED AT THE SAME SESSION  
AND WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.  
HEWITT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
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